## 'Rogue' Pins!

My original article, *'Deliberate Pin Removal - The Ones that Got Away!'*, which appeared in Bulletin N°. 258 (June 1992), featured three dies each showing a '*Rogue Pin*'. This is where an existing die has been modified (often only temporarily) by removing pins to create a different pattern, but an odd pin (or two) has been left in by mistake.

For multiheaded dies, the situation is best illustrated in a strip or block showing the '*Rogue Pin*' variation in context, but these are scarce to come by! For example, the late *Ron Harris* reported this impressive '*Sun Alliance*' 3x3 block of 6d Wildings in Bulletin N°. 219, October 1985.
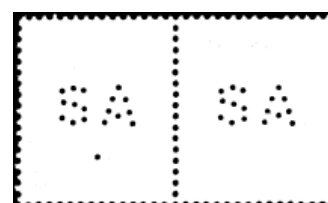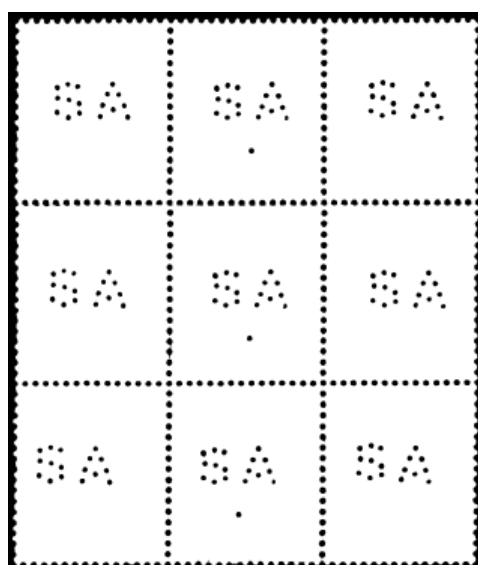

1p Machin **3x1** strip postmarked Wolverhampton, W. Mids., 12th May 1989 - courtesy of *Ron Mills*.

If you have the original for the 3x3 block above, or any of those that follow, please let me know so that a scan in colour of the front of the stamp(s) can be shown here!

The following pages show all the '*Rogue Pin*' examples in *approximate chronological order*, reported to me as Catalogue Editor over the years, in triple format where possible, i.e. the '*Original*' pattern, the '*Rogue Pin*' pattern, and the '*Intended*' pattern. It should be noted that over *80%* of the '*Rogue Pin*' Perfins were produced by *J Sloper & Co*!

The earliest example of a '*Rogue Pin*' may well be the Perfin used by '*Benetfink & Co Ltd*', Athletic Hosiers & Outfitters, Cycle & Motor Accessory Dealers, Photographic Apparatus Dealers, Jewellers & Silversmiths, Electro-plate Dealers, Cutlers, Ironmongers & Lamp Manufacturers, Talking Machines & Toys, and Electricians, 107, 108, & 110 Cheapside, London EC, and Honey Lane Market, London EC.

	1884-1890	1890-1905	c1911	

	B1595.01	*B1509.01*	*B1500.02*	
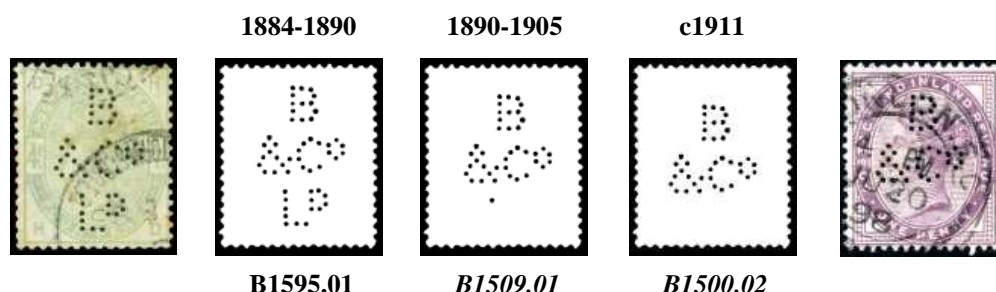
Examples of B1595.01 do not appear to show any gradual degradation of the die, most of the "L" simply disappears 'overnight' leaving only the top hole. For whatever reason, the '*Rogue Pin*' then disappears and re-appears every now and again. The earliest date reported in the '*Rogue Pin*' state is *… 1892*. The 'Gault' catalogue now lists old B1509.01/B1500.02 as *Bewares!* with a pointer to B1595.01. Four typical '*Rogue Pin*' examples are shown below.

This next die poses a problem in that there are *three* dies known that match the "HB" portion, but none of them account for the '*Rogue Pin*'. The Perfin is known to have been used by '*Hollington Bros*', Wholesale Clothiers, Middlesex St - Aldgate, 14 Whitechapel High St, and Blackheath Yard, London E. The earliest known date is *… 1892*.

1890-1905

H0367.01

1928-1936	1895-1939	1900-1905

H0470.01	H0530.04	H0570.01
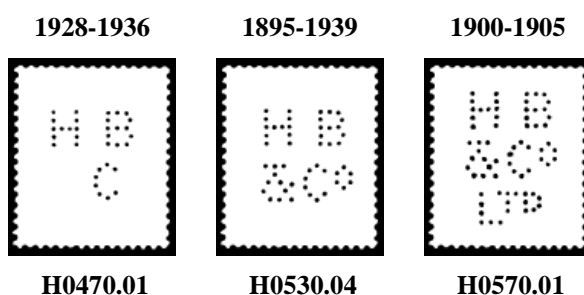
Still in the *Victorian era*, this next die is also a bit of an enigma!

Here only the '*Rogue Pin*' version exists, if indeed that's what it is. The asymmetric nature of the design points to a missing letter, but unfortunately there are no patterns reported to match with this die, although "C&C°/L^td" (C1620.01a) comes close. However, there is a striking similarity between the shapes of the letters used in this die when compared to those in "B/&C°/L^d" discussed previously, so maybe they were made by the same maker.

1895-1905

C1207.01

The stamp originally reported was a QV Jubilee ½d (vermilion), postmarked Bromsgrove on the *8th February, 1895*. The QV 1d 16-dot Lilac illustrated was posted at (Bro)msgrove on the 29th August 1901. The user is known to have been '*Cotton & Chappell*', Auctioneers, Valuers and Land Agents, Bromsgrove, Worcs.

We now move into the *Edwardian era*. This next die was a single headed die fitted to Sloper Perforating Press, N°. 7294, completed c1891. It was made specifically for the customer who would have perforated their own stamps on their own premises. For some reason the "&" was removed *c1907*, but it would appear that the extra pin that was left in went unnoticed, or at least uncorrected, for a good few years.

1891-1907	**1907-1912**	**1912-1915**

E3580.01	**E3575.01**	**E3570.01**

The suggested sequence is shown above, although I would be interested in hearing from anyone who can further refine the stated date ranges. All three sets of initials are found with London newspaper cancels, so it's not surprising that the user was '*The Electrician Printing & Publishing Co Ltd*', Salisbury Court, Fleet St, London EC. The latest date for the full strike is *5th June 1906*, the earliest and latest dates showing the '*Rogue Pin*' are the *14th January 1909* (the illustrated 1d issue 'F') and *11th January 1912*. No dated example has been reported for E3570.01 although it is known on the KGV Downey Head issue.

This next one is unusual in that the '**Rogue Pin**' appears right at the **end** of the life of the die! In this case the pin must have been **put back deliberately**, but why, I'm afraid, is a mystery. The die is **thought** to have been used by '**Piper, Son & Phillips**', Wholesale Woollen Warehousemen, 40 Butter Market, Ipswich. The "S" was removed when the company became known as "Phillips & Piper Ltd" sometime between 1900 and 1912. The latest known date without the "S" is 5th June 1914. The 'Rogue Pin' variety is only known on the KGV Seahorse issue - the 2/6d and 5/-, both Type 'A' with an Ipswich Postmark, but no dated examples. "P/&P" (P3640.01) is also known on the same two Seahorses, so knowing the printers would help with the dating! At the moment only an approximate date of *c1920* has been assigned.
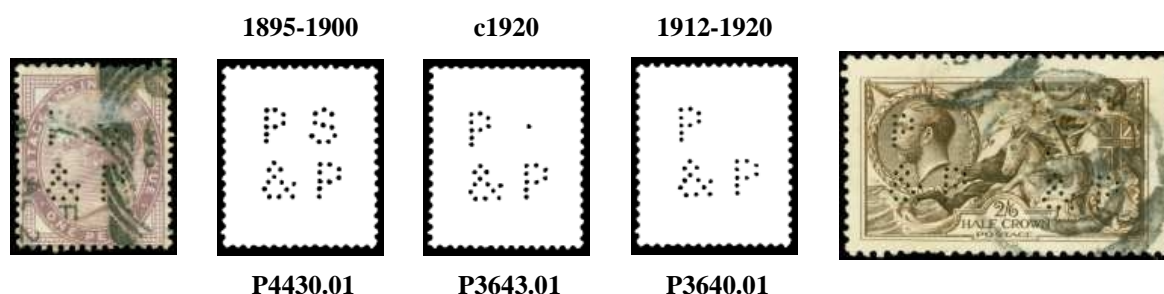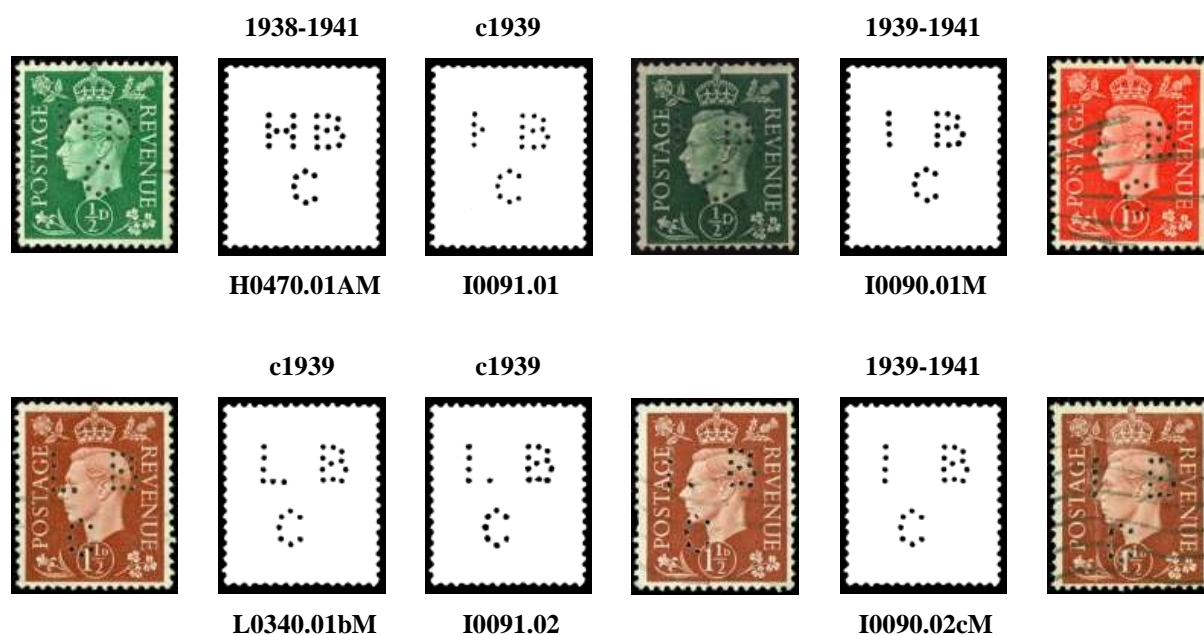
1895-1900	c1920	1912-1920	
P4430.01	P3643.01	P3640.01	

> **Image required of a stamp with the 'Rogue Pin'!**

The remaining '**Rogue Pin**' dies were all produced by **J Sloper & Co** who supplied perforated stamps to many customers.

These next two '**Rogue Pins**' dating to *c1939* (or perhaps as late as *c1941*), are attempts made by Sloper's to produce the pattern "IB/C" by 'cannibalising' existing dies, but the pin removal wasn't complete. The "IB/C" Perfins were for use by both '**Ilkeston BC**' and '**Islington MBC**', so postmark evidence would be required to determine which user was involved. "HB/C" (H0470.01AM) is known used 25th November 1940, and "IB/C" (I0090.01M) is known used 27th June 1940, so the 'cannibalised' dies probably had the removed pins put back after use.

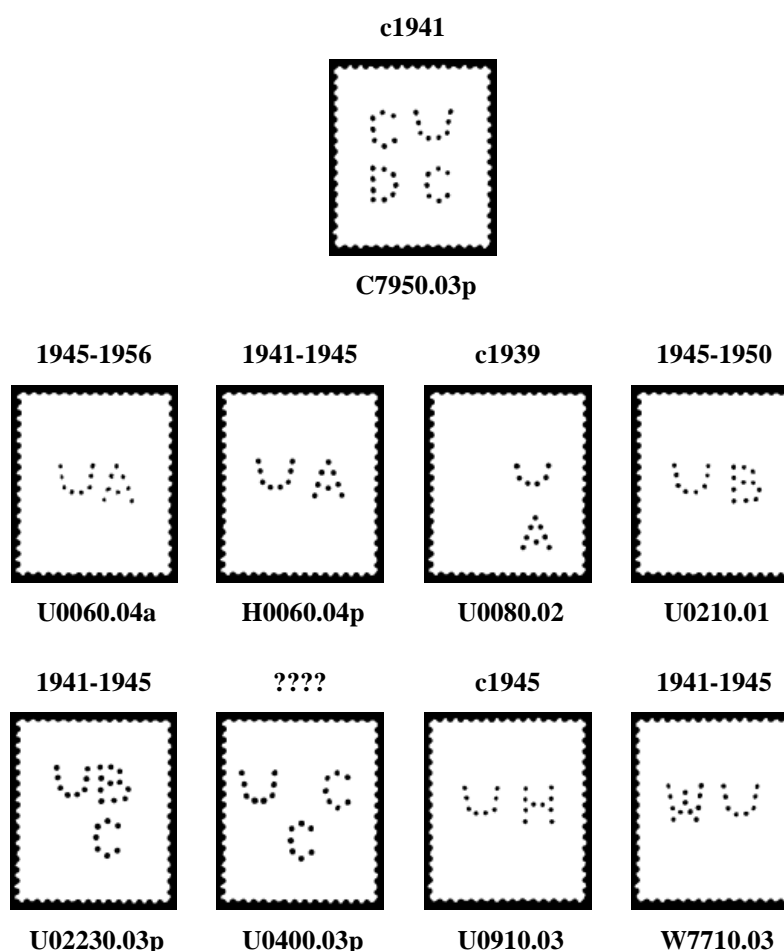| 1938-1941	c1939		1939-1941	
H0470.01AM	I0091.01		I0090.01M	

c1939	c1939		1939-1941	
L0340.01bM	I0091.02		I0090.02cM	

This example shows *Two 'Rogue Pins*' - the joined pair of *½d issue 'Q'* dating *c1939* (possibly as late as *c1941*) shown below was reported by *Terry Sitch* (Canada). The right-hand pattern is unmistakably "U/D" (U0600.01), but the left-hand pattern shows clearly that the wide-legged "U" was once a "W". If we assume that the pin removal was intentional, then the left-hand pattern becomes a 'Rogue Pin' variety as two pins were left in the original die, and the original die (whatever it was) was multiheaded.

????   **c1939**   **c1939**

Original Die unknown!

????   **U0600.01a**   **U0600.01M**
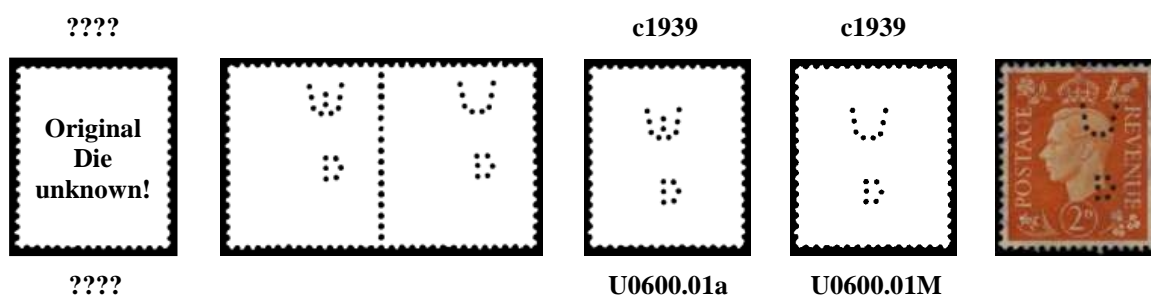
**Images required of stamps with/without the 'Rogue Pin'!**

I had thought that the original die would probably have been "(?)W/C^{o}L^{d}", but a thorough search of the 'Gault' G.B. Perfin Catalogue yielded no match. "W/L^{d}" also produced no match.

This characteristic wide-legged "U" is known on a few other G.B. Perfins, as the following illustrations, volunteered by *Stephen Steere*, show.

c1941

C7950.03p

1945-1956	**1941-1945**	**c1939**	**1945-1950**
U0060.04a	H0060.04p	U0080.02	U0210.01

1941-1945	**????**	**c1945**	**1941-1945**
U02230.03p	U0400.03p	U0910.03	W7710.03

Much of what follows date to the 'Emergency' period after Sloper's Works in Budge Row (where stamp perforation was carried out) was 'Blitzed' by the Luftwaffe during an air raid on London. The air raid in question took place on the night of the 10th May 1941 and into the early hours of the next morning, resulting in the loss of many of Sloper's 'in house' perforating dies.
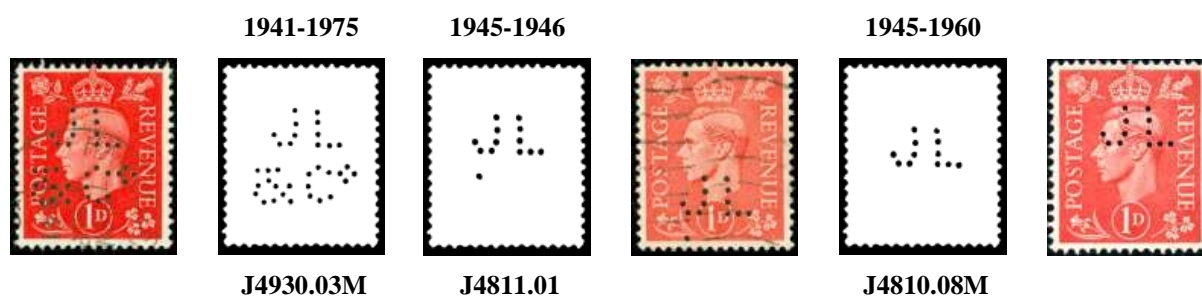
The "AAO/Cᵒ" die (A0287.02M) Sloper's used to perforate stamps for the '*Anglo-American Oil Co Ltd*' had pins removed to quickly create an "AA" die (A0030.05M) to perforate stamps *probably* for the '*Automobile Association*'. In the process, a pin was inadvertently left in from the base of the "O" in one of the patterns in the multiheaded die. Only one example of the '*Rogue Pin*' variety "AA." (A0035.01) has ever been reported (in 2007) - on a **6d 'Q'** with no postmark evidence - so the 'error' must have been short-lived. The stamp in question could date any time after 1941 during WWII, but I've plumped for an earlier date of *c1941*.

1938-1952	c1941		1941-1952

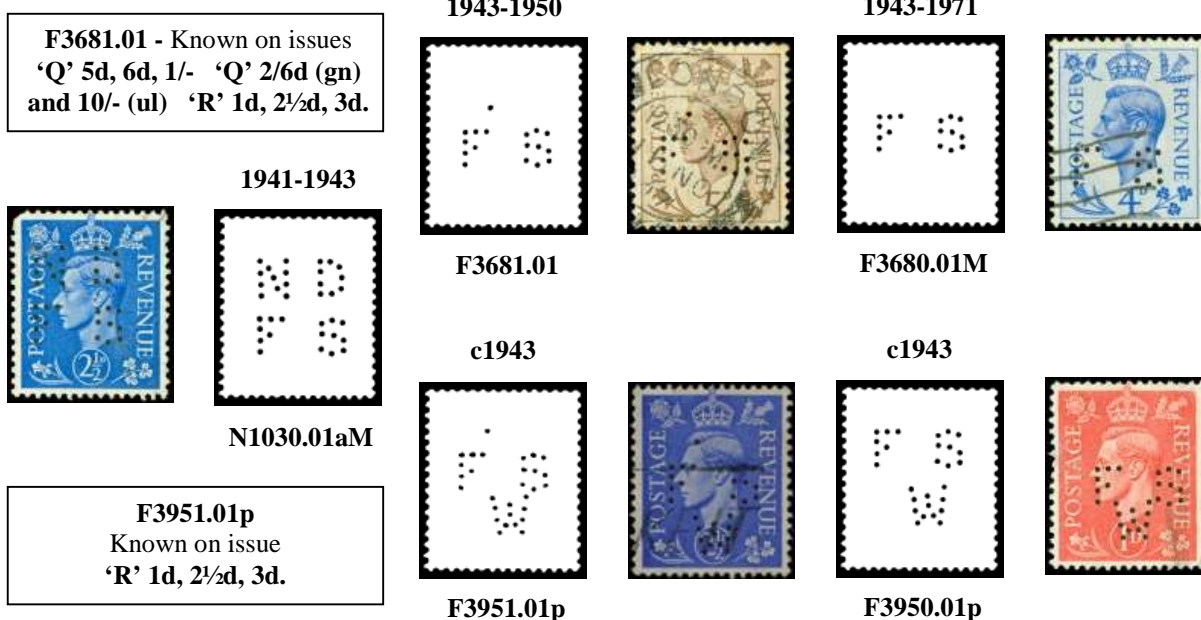| A0287.02M	A0035.01		A0030.05M
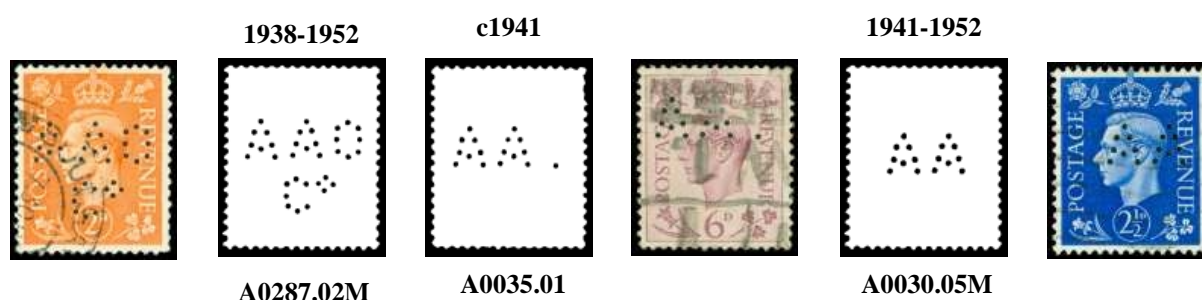
Fairly soon after the "Blitz" on their premises, Sloper's employed the use of more than one die to produce the customer's initials in cases where the 'Regular' die had been damaged or destroyed. These are called 'Sloper Wartime Provisionals' - SWP's for short - and have the suffix 'p' added to their catalogue number. A '*Rogue Pin*' (K0645.01p) has been reported on a single stamp - a **2½d 'R'**, postmarked Maidstone - which was intended to read "K/EC" for use by the '*Kent Education Committee*' based in Maidstone, Kent. The 'error' must have been short-lived, but could been at any time after *1941*, perhaps even as late as *1945/6*.

1941-1970	1941-1945		1941-1946

E0570.01M	K0645.01p		K0640.01ap

Next we have pin removal from the 'Regular' die "JL/&Cᵒ" (J4930.03M) to create "JL" (J4810.08M), with a '*Rogue Pin*' left in one of the patterns. Three examples are known, all on issue 'R', one of which is postmarked Bishop Auckland, *22nd March 1946*, and would have been used by '*Joseph Lingford & Son Ltd*', Baking Powder Mfrs, Bishop Auckland.

1941-1975	1945-1946		1945-1960

J4930.03M	J4811.01		J4810.08M

This next sequence shows a '***Rogue Pin***' "./FS" (F3681.01) used on its own as well as being part of the Sloper Wartime Provisional F3951.01p. "ND/FS" (N1030.01aM) is last known used 24th December 1942, pointing to a *c1943* creation for "FS" (F3680.01M). The 'error' was probably noticed and eventually rectified.

| F3681.01 - Known on issues |
| 'Q' 5d, 6d, 1/- 'Q' 2/6d (gn) |
| and 10/- (ul) 'R' 1d, 2½d, 3d. |

1943-1950

1943-1971

F3681.01

F3680.01M

1941-1943

N1030.01aM

c1943

c1943

| F3951.01p |
| Known on issue |
| 'R' 1d, 2½d, 3d. |

**F3951.01p**

F3950.01p

Fortunately, we know that "HI/C" (H3760.01M), in use 1941-1970, was made by following an instruction in the m/s Sloper Ledger to '***Alter HB/C***'. However, just one stamp is known with a '***Rogue Pin***' - **a 2½d issue 'R'** - dating it nominally to c1945. The fact that so few examples survive points to the error being spotted and corrected early on. The earliest reported date for "HI/C" (H3760.01M) is 20th December 1943 (on 1d 'R' illustrated), so *c1943 or earlier* is a reasonable date to assign to H3765.01.
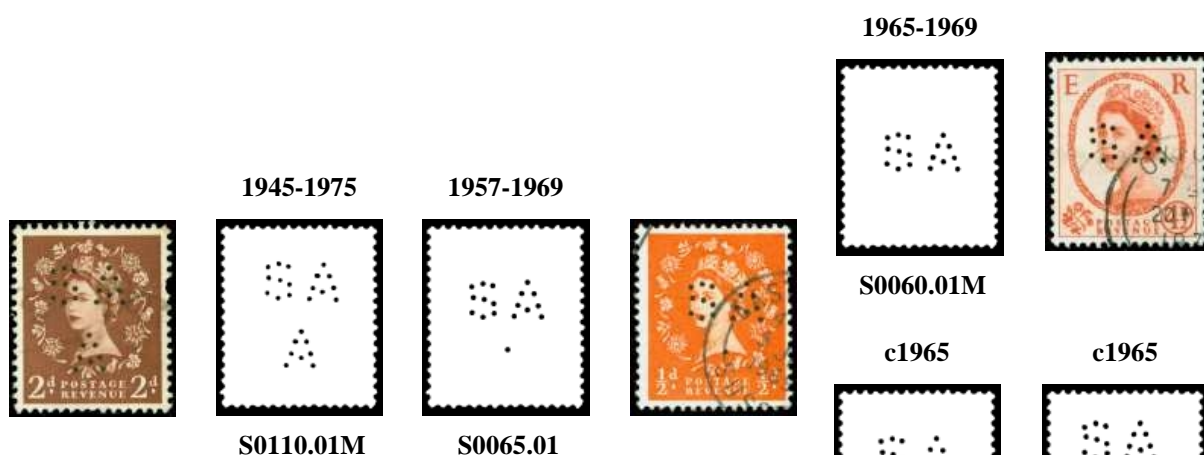
1941-2014   **c1943**

1941-1970

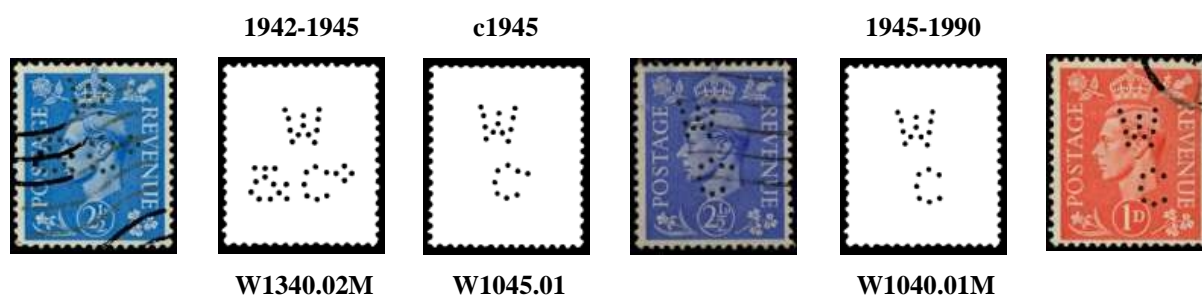**H0470.02aM**   **H3765.01**

H3760.01M
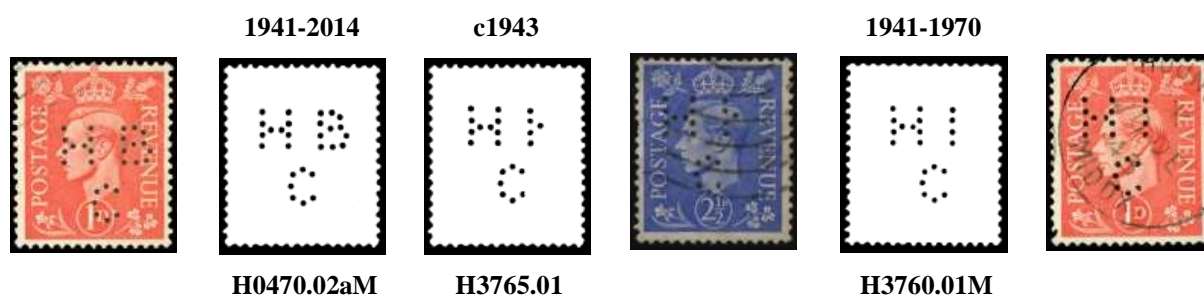
He re we have another short-lived '***Rogue Pin***' resulting from the 'temporary' cannibalisation, in this case of "HB/&C°" (H0530.02M). Known only from a single stamp - **a 2½d 'R'** - with no legible postmark, dating it to *c1945*.

1941-1965   **c1945**

1945-2000

H0530.02M   **H0367.02**

H0360.01M
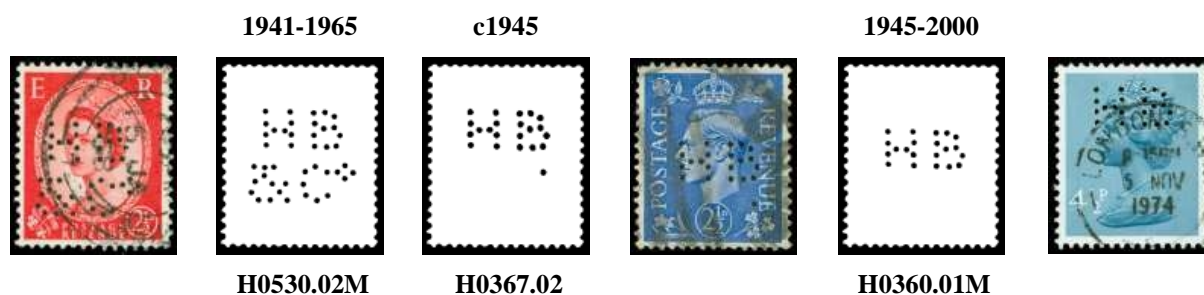
This next '**Rogue Pin**', "LC." (L0965.01), is known on a 6d 'Q', and 1d & 2½d issue 'R' and may well have been used a little earlier than the *c1945* quoted as L0960.02aM is known used as early as 25th January 1944. The 'error' must have been spotted and corrected early on.

1941-1957 **c1945** **1944-1965**

L1020.01dM **L0965.01** **L0960.02aM**
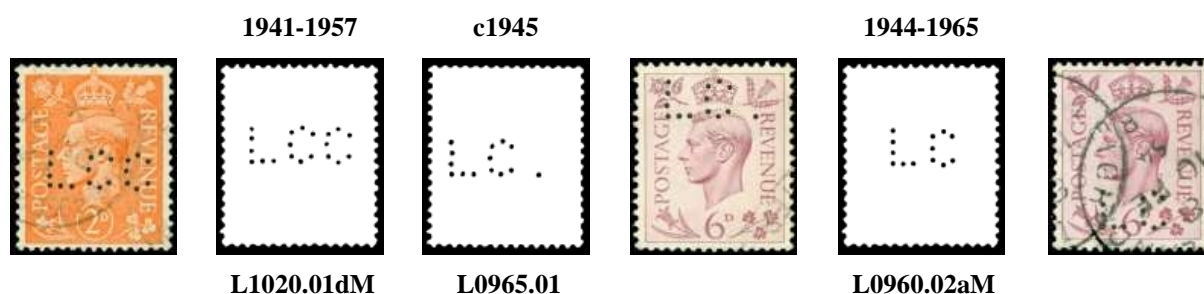
Another short-lived '**Rogue Pin**' is "W/C." (W1045.01), reported on a 1d & 2½d issue 'R', dating it to *c1945*. W1340.02M is known used as late as April 1943, whereas W1040.01M is known used as early as 12th December 1945. Again, the 'error' was spotted and corrected early.

1942-1945 **c1945** **1945-1990**

W1340.02M **W1045.01** **W1040.01M**

1965-1969

S0060.01M

**1945-1975** **1957-1969**

S0110.01M **S0065.01**

Here we see the '**Rogue Pin**' "SA/." (S0065.01) used on its own, as well as in combination with another die, "A" (A0010.02M) intending to produce the 'variable' "SA/A" (S0110.01v), unknown London user.

**c1965** **c1965**

S0111.01v **S0110.01v**

It's somewhat of a surprise that the original die that "SA" and "SA/." were created from was "SA/A" (S0110.01M), originally used by Sloper's to perforate stamps for the '*Salvation Army Assurance Society Ltd*'. The 1d Wilding (wmk MC) with the '*Rogue* Pin' was reported by *Ron Mills*.

Unusually, the '*Rogue Pin*' "CC/." (C1111.01) is known used by both '*Cheltenham*' and '*Chesterfield*' Borough Councils, so postmark evidence would be required to allocate a specific user - illustrated example has a Chelte(nham) postmark. However it's a bit of an enigma in that there appears to be no 'Intended' pattern - it was made from a multiheaded die, so "CC" would be expected.

1948-1960 **1965-1968**

C1810.01M   **C1111.01**
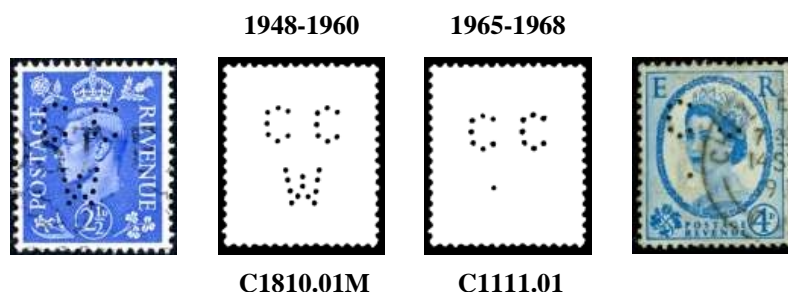
This next '*Rogue Pin*' was precipitated in *1973* by a name change from the '*North Western Gas Board*' (established on 1st May 1949) to '*North West Gas*', a region of the newly formed, and short-lived, '*British Gas Corporation*'. Sloper's simply removed the "B" from their current "NW/GB" (N3610.01M) die to produce "NW/G" (N3605.01M). The '*Rogue Pin*' left in one of the patterns in the multiheaded die (originally **12x1**, but by now **10x1**) may well never have been repaired as an example is known used *10th February 1985*, over a decade later

1952-1973   **1973-1985**   **1973-1990**
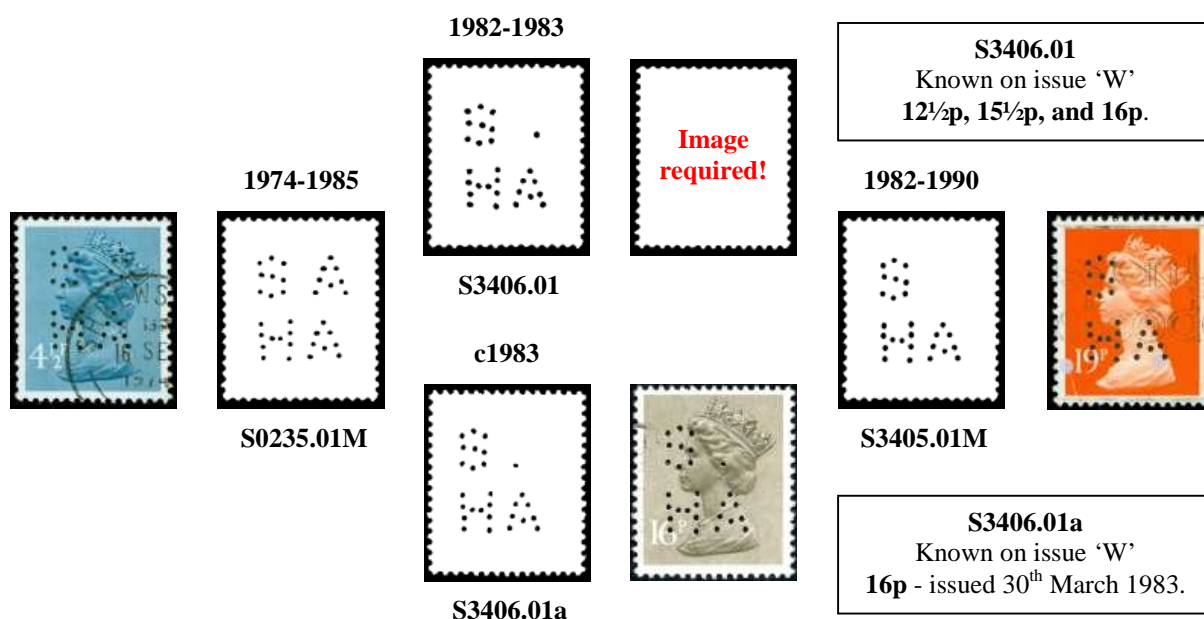

N3610.01M   **N3606.01**   **N3605.01M**
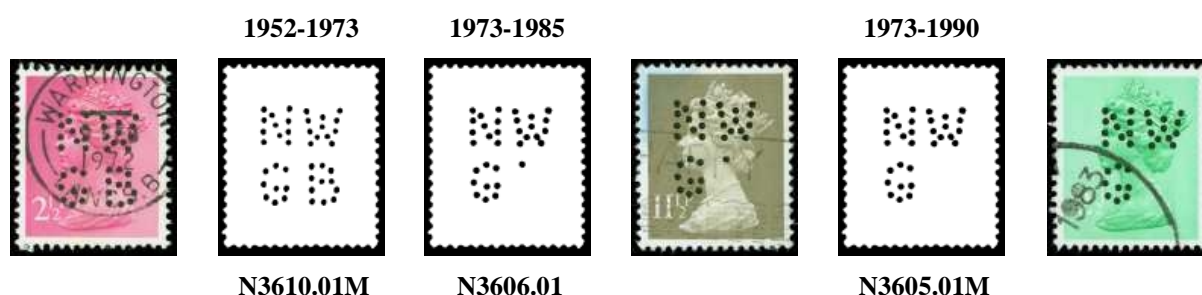
A '*Rogue Pin*' was reported by **Rosemary Smith** in January 2009, "E.C/HD" (E0686.01), known used 1973-1975, which was probably part of the Sloper *12x1* multiheaded die "EC/HD" (E0685.01M) in use 1973-1995 by the '*East Cumbria Health District*', 14 Portland Sq, Carlisle. Fortunately, known dates for the '*Rogue Pin*' variety lie between *17th June 1974* (illustrated) and *10th January 1975*, suggesting that the 'error' was spotted and corrected relatively early on.

1973-1975   **1973-1995**

E0686.01   **E0685.01M**
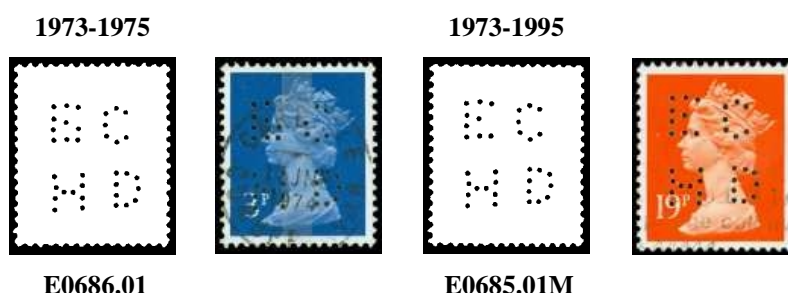
Unfortunately, the 'Original' die has not yet been determined. *Any ideas?*

Continuing the NHS theme, "SA/HA" (S0235.01M), last known used 5th March 1982, was modified by removing the "A" to make "S/HA" (S3405.01M) in *1982* when NHS '*Area Health Authorities*' (created 1st April 1974) were abolished becoming known simply as '*Health Authorities*' (effective from 1st April 1982). More than that, by accident one of the pins was left behind from the right-hand foot of one of the A's to produce the '*Rogue Pin*' variety "S./HA" (S3406.01). Interestingly another example has since been found with a pin from the *other* foot of the "A" still left in place "S./HA" (S3406.01a). Both '*Rogue Pin*' varieties are somewhat scarce, which suggests the 'errors' were spotted and rectified early on.

1982-1983

S3406.01

Image required!

S3406.01
Known on issue 'W'
12½p, 15½p, and 16p.

1974-1985

S0235.01M

1982-1990

S3405.01M

c1983

S3406.01a

S3406.01a
Known on issue 'W'
16p - issued 30th March 1983.

Although "S/HA" (S3405.01M) has been positively identified as having been used by each of the Shropshire (Salop), Sandwell (West Bromwich), and Solihull '*Health Authorities*', only a West Bromwich postmark has been reported on one of the '*Rogue Pin*' variations - S3406.01. Again, quoted dates for the use of each the 'Original' and 'Intended' dies are all encompassing and not specific to any particular user.

"W./HA" (W3456.01) is one of the patterns in the *10x1* multiheaded die "W/HA" (W3455.02M), which was made *c1985* by removing pins from "WB/HA" (W0645.01M), known used 15th October 1984. The '*Rogue Pin*' may well never have been 'corrected'. Both W3455.02M and W3456.01 are known used in December 1986.

1980-1985   **1985-1995**   **1985-2006**

W0645.01M   **W3456.01**   **W3455.02M**
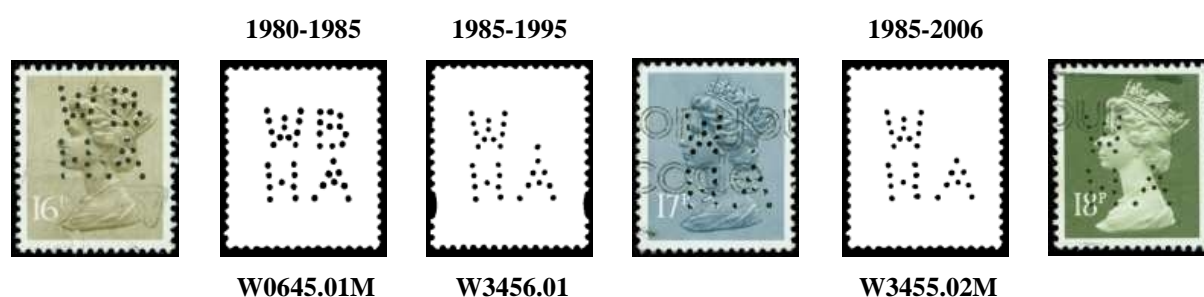
The original "WB/HA" die was used to supply perforated stamps to the '*West Birmingham Health Authority*' in Birmingham. The resulting die, "W/HA" (W3455.02M), and the '*Rogue Pin*' variation (W3456.01) were used by three different Health Authorities {Walsall, Wandsworth, and Wolverhampton Health} so postmark evidence, which is seldom encountered, would be required to assign the correct user to any particular Perfinned stamp.

This last item serves as a ***Beware!***

Originally catalogued as "S./EB" (S2365.01), this was demoted to a Beware! on the grounds that it was simply a '***Blind Pin***' example of "SE/EB" (S2480.01M) in which all bar one of the pins forming the "E" on the top line were ***blind***, i.e. incompletely cut by the perforating pins making a cut mark but leaving the paper intact. However, the stamp has been re-examined and there are no signs of any blind pins - they are all completely missing except the lone hole. This must be a one-off occurrence of an ***incomplete strike*** as the parent die was in use 1948-2000, and no "S/EB" Perfin has been reported. The user is known to have been the '***South Eastern Electricity Board***'. The larger holes shown in the '***Lone Pin***' example are the result of die refurbishment carried out on the original die c1980, by which time the original **12x1** multiheaded die had been reduced to **10x1** to cater for sheets of decimal stamps.

1948-2000   **c1989**

S2480.01M   *S2365.01*
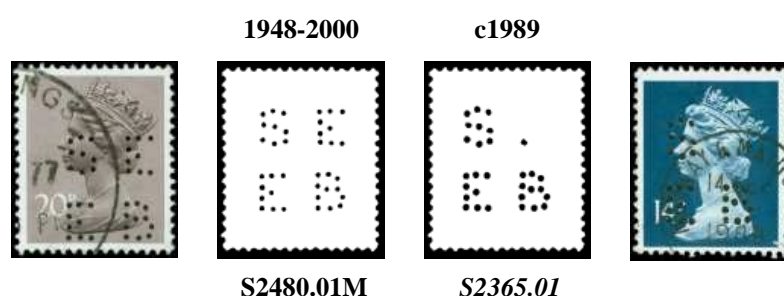
The stamp involved is a 14p (Deep Blue - 14a) Machin, postmarked
Medway & Maidstone, 14th September 1989.

Table of 'Rogue Pin' Dies for reference - Alphabetical arrangement.

|	Original Die	Die in use	Rogue Pin	Die in use	Intended Die	Die in use
1	A0287.02M	AAO/C^o — 1938-1952	**A0035.01** AA.	**c1941**	A0035.05M AA	1941-1952
2	B1595.01	B/&C^o/L^d — 1884-1890	**B1509.01** B/&C^o/.	**1890-1905**	*B1500.02* B/&C^o	c1911
3	C1810.01M	CC/W — 1948-1960	**C1111.01** CC/.	**1965-1968**	??? ???	???
4	???	??? — ???	**C1207.01** C&C/B.	**1895-1905**	??? ???	???
5	???	??? — ???	**E0686.01** E.C/HD	**1973-1975**	E0685.01M EC/HD	1973-1995
6	E3580.01	EP/&/PC^o — 1891-1907	**E3575.01** EP/./PC^o	**1907-1912**	E3570.01 EP/PC^o	1912-1915
7	N1030.01aM	ND/FS — 1941-1943	**F3681.01** ./FS	**1943-1950**	F3680.01M FS	1943-1971
8	N1030.01aM	ND/FS — 1941-1943	**F3951.01p** ./FS/W	**c1943**	F3950.01p FS/W	c1943
9	???	??? — ???	**H0367.01** HB/.	**1890-1905**	??? ???	???
10	H0530.02M	HB/&C^o — 1941-1965	**H0367.02** HB/.	**c1945**	H0360.01M HB	1945-2000
11	H0470.02aM	HB/C — 1941-2014	**H3765.01** HI./C	**c1943**	H3760.01M HI/C	1941-1970
12	H0470.01AM	HB/C — 1938-1941	**I0091.01** I.B/C	**c1939**	I0090.01M IB/C	1939-1941
13	L0340.01b	c1939 — 1939-1940	**I0091.02** I.B/C	**c1939**	I0090.02c IB/C	1939-1942
14	J4930.03M	JL/&C^o — 1941-1975	**J4811.01** JL/.	**1945-1946**	J4810.08M JL	1945-1960
15	E0570.01M	ECC — 1941-1970	**K0645.01p** K/EC.	**1941-1945**	K0640.01ap K/EC	1941-1946
16	L1020.01dM	LCC — 1941-1957	**L0965.01** LC.	**c1945**	L0960.02aM LC	1944-1965
17	N3610.01M	NW/GB — 1952-1973	**N3606.01** NW/G.	**1973-1985**	N3605.01M NW/G	1973-1990
18	P4430.01	PS/&P — 1895-1900	**P3643.01** P./&P	**c1920**	P3640.01 P/&P	1905-1920
19	S0110.01M	SA/A — 1945-1975	**S0065.01** SA/.	**1957-1969**	S0060.01M SA	1965-1969
20	S0110.01M	SA/A — 1945-1975	**S0111.01v** SA/./A	**c1965**	S0110.01v SA/A	c1965
	S2480.01M	SE/EB — 1948-2000	*S2386.01* *S./EB*	*c1989*	??? ???	???
21	S0235.01M	SA/HA — 1974-1985	**S3406.01** S./HA	**1982-1983**	S3405.01M S/HA	1982-1990
22	S0235.01M	SA/HA — 1974-1985	**S3406.01a** S./HA	**c1983**	S3405.01M S/HA	1982-1990
23	???	??? — ???	**U0600.01a** U/^{d}	**c1940**	U0600.01 U/^{d}	c1939
24	W1340.02M	W/&C^o — 1942-1945	**W1045.01** W/C.	**c1945**	W1040.01M W/C	1945-1990
25	W0645.01M	WB/HA — 1980-1985	**W3456.01** W./HA	**1985-1995**	W3455.02M W/HA	1985-2006

This small group of *twenty-five* '*Rogue Pin*' Perfins, is an eminently suitable subject for a display at a local stamp club exhibition. Admittedly, some of the examples are scarce, possibly unique, but a fair few are reasonably easy to come by because the 'error' either wasn't spotted for a long time, or although spotted early on, it was judged not to be worth the effort to rectify it.

As can be seen from the date ranges quoted, a number of these may be found on 'modern' issues, with one - "W./HA" - known on the Elliptical-cut Machins. The 25p stamp illustrated above was introduced 26th October 1993, so this example probably dates to *c1995*.

There's 'treasure' to be found in Machins if the time can be spared to look!

In the Victorian era *Sidney Allchin* perforated stamps for customers using what we believe was a press fitted with a die that had readily removable or retractable pins. As a result some of the Perfins produced by him, even for the same set of letters, differ in terms of spacing along the row and sometimes even the number of pins making up a particular letter, and whether or not stop(s) are shown. Each batch will have been consistent within the batch, but could easily differ when the next batch was produced weeks, months, or years later. On rare occasions a pin is set to actuate which doesn't seem to be part of the pattern, but due to the variability of the process these examples have *not* been included here.

1895-1920	1890-1920	1890-1895	1890-1895
F0360.01v	F0370.01v	F0370.01cv	F0370.01cv
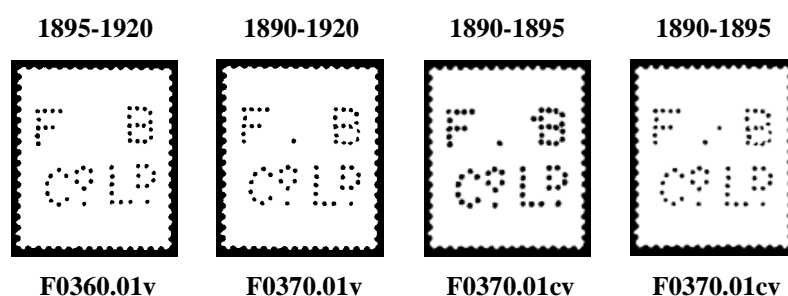
The 3rd silhouette showing an additional pin next to the upright of the "B" (F0370.01c) is known only on a QV 1d Lilac (16 dots) postmarked (Lon)don SE, 27 Sep 1893. The 4th silhouette is also known only on a QV 1d Lilac (16 dots), postmarked (Lon)don NW, presumably dating to the same period.

And finally, if you can add any more details that further refine any of the stated date ranges, or provide colour scans of the 'missing' examples, I would be pleased to hear from you. As some of the '*Rogue Pin*' stamps are hard to come by, I would also be pleased to receive details of any new denominations that you discover. And of course, please report any unlisted '*Rogue Pin*' examples you're lucky enough to find!

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